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"spiritual service has been in its inmost essence, in its highest development, the service of a healer and a comforter, the work of a redeemer and a prophet," and who "above all other apostles who have brought us each the glad tidings of his peculiar gospel . . . has deserved to be called by the most beautiful and tender of all human titles—the son of consolation."

Our critic expects his judgment to be received with irritation and derision, but he prefers this danger rather than that of incurring the smile of compassion or the scorn of posterity, by reason of "faint praise."

It is greatly to be regretted that Swinburne, in writing on Hugo, should not have given us more than a small volume of 200 pages, which under any circumstances must needs be wholly inadequate to meet the expectations aroused by the tenor of its title. He who expects to find in it a clear-cut profile of Hugo as a person, or a comprehensive idea of him as a man, or an analysis of his works, or an account of his life, or a description of the mental and moral atmosphere in which he grew up, and similar topics, will be disappointed. Indeed, all Swinburne does is to accompany the reader through the vast realm of Hugo's creations, and to point out to him what he considers the greatest and most worthy of attention. Even this service, however, is a valuable one and to be received with gratitude, because the critic is nearly always fortunate in knowing where to linger. It is true, we cannot share his predilection for *Les Travailleurs de la Mer*, nor his high praise of *L'Homme qui rit*; we also hesitate to proclaim *Le Roi s'amuse* "one of the great crowning tragedies of all time," but we heartily endorse his poetic selections, although we miss in his list such poems as *Encore à Toi—Quand l'enfant paraît—Oh! n'insultez pas une femme qui tombe!—Au Bord de la Mer—A quoi je songe—Le Pont—Androclos—La Conscience—Le Parricide—Le Temple*, and others.

With reference to the 'Légende des Siècles,' we read:—"The unity of the book," "is not logical but spiritual; its diversity is not accidental or chaotic; it is the result and expression of a spontaneous and perfect harmony, as clear and as profound as that of the other greatest works achieved by man." If we may be permitted to express a wish, it is to see Swin-

burne grapple with this greatest problem set before the student of Victor Hugo; namely, to demonstrate the unity of the 'Légende des Siècles.'

H. C. O. Huss.

Princeton College.

### PERSONAL.

W. C. Collar, Head Master of the Roxbury Latin School, is preparing for Ginn & Co. a revised edition of Eysenbach's German Grammar. It will be ready in the autumn.

The 'History of Education' (cf. *Notes*, No. 2, col. 53) by F. V. N. Painter, Professor of Modern Languages in Roanoke College, has received warm commendation from Dr. Wm. T. Harris, Editor of the 'International Education Series,' where it will appear. He says of the work: "I was delighted to find in the MS. what I had been seeking for years, an admirable study of the History of Education from the standpoint of the philosophy of history (Hegel's as modified by Rosenkranz and then by Karl Schmidt)."

Walter D. Toy, A. M. (University of Virginia, 1882), has been appointed to the professorship of German and French in the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill. During his course of study at the University of Virginia, Prof. Toy was engaged from time to time in teaching in Mr. McCabe's school, at Petersburg, Va., making in all about four years, but immediately after obtaining the Master's degree he went abroad, where he devoted himself especially to the study of modern languages. He passed five semesters at the Universities of Leipsic and Berlin and one semester at the Sorbonne and Collège de France.

Samuel B. Platner, a graduate (1883) of Yale College, was appointed Instructor in Latin and French, at Adelbert College, Cleveland, Ohio, at the beginning of the present academic year. Mr. Platner spent two years of graduate study at his Alma Mater, as incumbent of the Larned Scholarship, and took his Ph. D. degree (1885) at the same institution, with Sanskrit as his principal subject and Greek and Latin as secondary subjects. He presented a thesis on a "Comparison of Three Recensions of the Rāmāyana"

Thomas Hume, Jr., has been appointed, also, Prof. of English Language and Literature in the University of North Carolina. Prof. Hume is a graduate of Richmond College, Richmond, Va., where he received the degree of A. M. He afterward attended the University of Virginia and about four years ago the degree of D. D. was conferred on him by his *Alma Mater*. He was recently connected with Norfolk College, Norfolk, Virginia.

William Cook, of Cambridge, Mass., has been appointed Instructor in French and German at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston. Prof. Cook is a graduate of Yale (1861), has spent six years in Europe (1867-1873) and eleven years at Harvard College (1873-1884), where he was Instructor for six years and Assistant Professor of German for five years.

The teaching force for Modern Languages in the University of Pennsylvania, Philada., was increased at the beginning of the present year by the appointment of Hugo-A. Rennert as Instructor in French and German. Mr. Rennert is a graduate (1876) of the University of Pennsylvania, in the Department of Science (B. S.) and also (1881) in the Law Department (LL. B.). Since his graduation, he has been engaged in teaching French and German at a private school in Philadelphia, where he has given instruction also in Spanish and Italian.

Howard Edwards, A. M. (Randolph-Macon College), has been called to the Chair of English and Modern Languages at the Arkansas Industrial University, in the place of H. B. Edmiston, now a special student in Romance Languages, at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. Prof. Edwards is a graduate (1876) of Randolph-Macon College, at Ashland, Va., and after graduation spent about a year in Germany and France (Leipsic and Paris). Since his return to America, he has been connected in Virginia, North Carolina and Alabama with three different academies and schools, in two as Instructor of Greek, German and English, and in the third, as Principal.

Melville B. Anderson, Professor of English and French at Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., has an interesting review of Gosse's 'From Shakespeare to Pope' in the December (1885)

number of *THE DIAL* (Jansen, McClurg & Co., Chicago), pp. 213-215. It is interesting to note, that the opinion here expressed agrees, in the main points, with that of Prof. T. Whiting Bancroft (Brown University), as published in *NOTES*, No. 2, pp. 43-46.

#### BRIEF MENTION.

*Anecdotes nouvelles.* Lectures faciles et amusantes et Récitations à l'usage des classes de français. New York; The Writers' Publishing Co. 12mo., paper, pp. 71.

One hundred and three short, unhackneyed anecdotes, well suited to younger pupils for light reading and especially for exercise in memorizing. One page of notes is appended to sixty-eight pages of text, a proportion which would seem to preclude such help as, "p. 16. Comment trouvez-vous, *how do you like*," and yet not to excuse such half-statements as, "p. 11, "si=oui," and "p. 63, c'est le maire qui marie en France." The more obscure idioms and allusions are so few that (even supposing the editor to have been restricted by the publishers, which can scarcely have been the case) they might well have been explained, not merely paraphrased, as is here done.

The forthcoming number of the *Deutsche Shakespeare Jahrbuch* will open with an article of some length (80 pages) by Prof. Zupitza on "Die mittellenglische Vorstufe von Shakespeare's *As you like it*." The aim of the paper is to show the want of any reasonable support of the theory professed by Knight, Stone and Harrison that Shakespeare, while taking the story of his play from Lodge's novel, *Rosalind*, also borrowed, on occasion, directly from the Tale of Gamelyn from which Lodge had constructed his novel. Prof. Zupitza gives a modern German translation of the Middle English Tale of Gamelyn (edited in 1884 by Skeat, Clarendon press), but does not always follow Skeat's text; at several places we find him preferring the reading of some other MS. — a proceeding that finds its justification in a special investigation dealing with the Relations and Classification of the MSS. in which the Tale has been preserved. The last portion of the